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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF PICKERING

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1951

W. R. M. COUPER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

INCLUDING THE REPORT

of the

Sanitary Inspector

G. BATTY, C.R.S.I.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PICKERING.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Pickering.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of the Pickering Urban District for the year 1951.

W. R. M. COUPER,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area in Acres	15,652
Estimated Population	4,321
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,340
Rateable Value	£19,369
Product of Penny Rate	£78/18/10

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	39	35	74
Legitimate	35	31	66
Illegitimate	4	4	8
Stillbirths	1	–	1
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	17.4		
Illegitimate rate (percentage of total births)	10.8%		
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 population) ...	0.23		

Infant Mortality.

	Male	Female	Total
Death of Infants under 1 year of age:			
Legitimate	2	–	2
Illegitimate	—	–	–
Infant Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1,000 live births	33.3		
Death of Infants under 4 weeks of age:			
Legitimate	1	–	1
Neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 related live births)	13.5		

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH.

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	–	–	–
Tuberculosis, other	–	–	–
Syphilitic disease	–	–	–
Diphtheria	–	–	–
Whooping Cough	–	–	–
Meningococcal infections	–	–	–
Acute poliomyelitis	1	–	1
Measles	–	–	–
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	–	–	–
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	4	1	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	–	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	–	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	2	5
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	–	–	–
Diabetes	–	–	–
Vascular lesions of the nervous system ...	–	8	8
Coronary disease, angina	6	4	10
Hypertension with heart disease	1	–	1
Other heart diseases	3	6	9
Other circulatory disease	–	1	1
Influenza	2	1	3
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	2	–	2
Other diseases of the respiratory system ...	–	–	–
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum... ...	–	–	–
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	–	–	–
Nephritis and Nephrosis	–	–	–
Hyperplasia of prostrate	2	–	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	–	–	–
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	2	4	6
Motor vehicle accidents	–	–	–
All other accidents	1	–	1
Suicide	1	–	1
Homicide and operations of war	–	–	–
Total deaths all causes	31	32	63
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated population)	14.6		

Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES DURING 1951.

	Rates per 1,000 population			Infant Mortality Rate
	Live Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate	
England and Wales ...	15.5	0.36	12.5	29.6
Pickering U.D. ...	17.4	0.23	14.6	33.3

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year :—

Measles	61
Whooping Cough	10
Influenzal Pneumonia ...	2
Scarlet Fever	20
Dysentery	1
Erysipelas	2
Poliomyelitis (paralytic) ...	1

There was a mild outbreak of scarlet fever during the year. One case of poliomyelitis died.

Tuberculosis—New Cases Notified.

There were two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year, both males. There were no deaths from tuberculosis.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

(i) Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health: W. R. M. Couper, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector: G. Batty, C.R.S.I.

(ii) Local Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

(a) Care of Mothers and Young Children.

There is a Child Welfare Clinic in Pickering which holds two sessions each month.

(b) Health Visitor/Nurse/Midwifes.

Two combined duty nurses serving your district are resident in Pickering.

(c) Ambulance Service.

Ambulance stations at Malton and Kirbymoorside provide this service.

(d) Immunisation and Vaccination.

Provision is made for primary immunisation against Diphtheria at the Child Welfare Centre but the greater part of this work is carried out by general practitioners, in their surgeries and in the home.

A high rate of immunisation against diphtheria is not being attained and every effort is being made, especially through health visitors, to increase the number of children immunised. Unless a high rate of immunisation can be maintained, there is always the danger of an outbreak of Diphtheria.

(e) Domestic Help Service.

This service provides domestic help, at a charge dependent on the income of the household, in homes where there has been a confinement or ill-health of the mother and to the aged and infirm.

The above services are administered by the Ryedale Local Health Sub-Committee.

(iii) Laboratory Facilities.

Samples for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton. A van calls once a week to collect the samples.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supply.

The North Eastern Gas Board are the water undertakers for the area and their head works at Keld Head, continue to give a plentiful supply of water.

Of the four samples taken after chlorination during the year all were equivalent to Class 1 of the M.O.H. Classification for piped water supplies, i.e., Highly Satisfactory.

Five samples of private supplies were taken, four of which proved to be unsatisfactory and one satisfactory.

The following table shows the number of dwelling houses and population supplied by public water mains and other private sources.

Total No. of Dwellings	Total Pop.	Supplied direct to houses		Other private sources	
		No of Houses	Population	No. of Houses	Population
1,340	4,321	1,216	3,920	112	401

Refuse Disposal.

The town area is served with a weekly collection of refuse, the Stape and Bean Sheaf areas quarterly.

Disposal is by crude tipping and the existing tip gives rise to considerable nuisance ; it is hoped that a new site will be acquired in the near future when a more controlled method will be followed.

Sewage Disposal.

The sludge drying beds at the Disposal Works are not capable of dealing with the amount of sludge produced and consequently the treatment tanks are not cleaned out as regularly as is necessary to provide a good effluent.

Food.

Inspections of shops and food preparing premises have been carried out regularly throughout the year. No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred.

Inspections of Food Stuffs have been carried out, resulting in the following condemnations :—

Beans	1 tin	Tinned fruit ...	14½ lbs.
Peas	1 tin	Meat	60 lbs.
Milk	1 tin	Bacon	6 lbs.
Tomatoes ...	1 tin	Peaches	56 lbs.
Soups	2 tins	Pears	4 boxes

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

A number of minor and major infestations have been satisfactorily treated by the Council's part-time rodent operative.

Those business premises in the town who employ outside firms to give regular treatments on contract have been inspected and it is hoped that the Council will take over that work as the contracts expire.

Shops Act, 1934.

20 inspections were made. No contraventions were found.

Camping Sites.

There are no licensed camping sites in the district.

Offensive Trades.

There are 3 licensed Knacker's Yards. 14 inspections have been made, no contraventions were found.

Slaughter Houses.

There is no public slaughter house in the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No cases of infestation have been found.

Schools.

The attention of the County Council has been drawn to the insufficiency of sanitary accommodation at one school and the necessary work has been put in hand.

The school canteen has been regularly inspected and has proved to be kept in a very clean condition.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

22 persons in the district are licensed under this Act to slaughter animals.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Registration of premises under Section 14 :

Ice Cream Dealers	10
Ice Cream Manufacturers ...	Nil

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

By Local Authority	Nil
By Private Enterprise ...	1

There are a number of families living under unsatisfactory conditions and the need for re-housing some of these persons is becoming acute.

Factories Act, 1937.

18 inspections have been carried out. One case of insufficient sanitary accommodation was found and the necessary action taken.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply	17	Refuse Disposal ...	7
Drainage	114	Rodent Control ...	22
Milk	6	Schools	2
Offensive Trades ...	14	Shops	20
Houses let in lodgings ...	2	Ice Cream Premises ...	5
Tents, Vans and Sheds	8	Food preparing Premises	9
Factories	11	Infectious Diseases ...	28
Workplaces	7	Building Licences ...	6
Public Conveniences ...	15	Petroleum Licences ...	25
Theatres and places of entertainment ...	9	Works in progress ...	118
		Nuisances	7
Refuse Collection ...	Nil	Miscellaneous	59

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